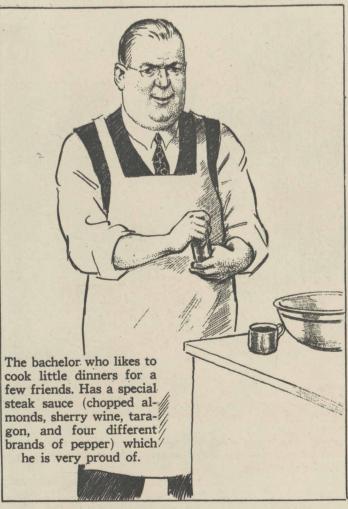
TOO MANY COOKS

By W. E. Hill







Back Stage Baby



A proud boast of many stage notables is that they were backstage babies. Born and reared in the grotesque land on the other side of the footlights, they absorbed the atmosphere and the traditions from their earliest days. Here Donald ("Donnie") St. John, at left, son of an acrobat father and a chorus girl mother, dramatizes the life of a modern backstage baby.

(Acme photos.)



2 The dressing room wash basin provides Donnie's bath, with father ready to assist.



Dressed after his bath, Donnie watches his mother prepare for her next turn with the chorus.



Louis Icart—Master of Color Etchings

Two famous etchings by Louis Icart are reproduced in color on page one of the picture section in this issue.

REPRODUCED in color on the first page of today's Picture Section of The Tribune are two fine examples of the work of Louis Icart, one of the most famous of contemporary French artists, and probably the richest. One, "Love's Blossom," is regarded as his masterpiece. The other, "Symphony in Blue," also has been greatly admired.

Icart began his artistic career at 6 when in the millinery shop kept by his parents in Toulouse he began sketching the hats he saw about him. At 12 he was doing the faces under the hats, and at 15 he was designing costumes. An aunt, impressed by his talent, took him to Paris, where he began making rapid advances in art.

Fashions was the field he chose, and his quick imagination established many of the innovations of the day. His studies took him to the great museums of Europe. He was determined to perfect his highly individual style.

The great war broke the skein of his artistic development, but new honors came to him at the front. The artist of fashion became a member of the 10th aeronautic squadron under the leadership of the great French air hero, Guynemer. He returned from



LOUIS ICART

the war with the rank of commandant. Ten years later he was made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor, and just recently was elevated to the rank of officer of the League of the Legion of Honor.

Icart had devoted most of his attention to oils, but he also dabbled a bit with etchings. A friend, visiting his studio, was delighted with several etching plates which Icart had completed and induced the artist to pub-

lish them. The result was an international success.

The tradition of Boucher, Fragonard, Watteau, and Lancret has been followed to a considerable extent by Icart—the grace and beauty of women, the comedy of love.

Originator of unique designs, Icart is also a proud craftsman, printing his own proofs with great care. His etching is done on copper plates, often with diamond-pointed tools. Icart repeatedly scours Paris for antique opper plates that he can plane down with infinite care to a perfectly smooth working surface.

The greater part of the artist's time is spent working at his place near Paris. He adores Venice, but knows nothing of the Lido. His leisure time is devoted to cultivating the rather showy talents which the French so much admire. He is a musician of some ability and has written and had published a play in Alexandrines. Like many notable persons, he has a pride in something wholly unrelated to his art. He loves to cook!

He would like nothing better than to go down in local history as the man who could prepare a duck à *l'orange* with the same mastery that he could sketch a Parisian woman.